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II. HISTOIRE NATURELLE DES ANIMAUX
PLANTES ET MINÉRAUX, qui entrent dans
la Composition de la THERIAQUE D'ANDROMA-
CHUS; par M. Charas In 12. A Paris.

AS there are above 60 sorts of different druggs, which are ingredi-
ents of this no less difficult than famous and usefull Medicine, which
was invented by *Andromachus*, Physician to *Nero*; and as those drugs are
subject to be sophisticated, and require different preparations, so there are
few men, that are sufficiently skill'd to chuse aright all those ingredients,
or dextrous and patient enough to prepare them well. The Author of
this Book treats of this celebrated medicament, and not only teacheth
the way of composing it, but intersperseth many not in considerable re-
marks touching the nature and vertues of all the Druggs, which com-
pose it.

He is of opinion, that commonly there are committed many faults in
preparing the Ingredients, of which the Theriack is made up. E. g.
When the Vipers are prepared, the custom is to whip them; thereby
to make all the venom go to the head, which is cut off when they are
sufficiently enraged. They also boile the flesh, thereby to draw forth what
venemousness may yet rest therein, and their bones are cast away as use-
less. Whereas he saith, that it being by Experience evident, that all the
venom of the Viper is in his Teeth and Jaws, that whipping is not only
to no purpose, but also dangerous, in regard that the Spirits being cha-
fed and irritated may beget venom in the body, where was none. He as-
serts also, that the water, in which the viper-flesh is boyled, carryes a-
way all the vertue; and that the bones that are thrown away are no less
useful, than the flesh itself.

He takes further notice, that *Opium* hath not those ill qualities, which many as-
cribe to it, who teach, that it suffocate the natural heat; and that there need no more
than 3. graines to dispatch the lustiest man; whereas he assures, that himself hath taken
6 graines of it without having been more stupified by it, than he used to be; and that
instead of being debilitated, he hath found himself strengthened by it. He adds, that he
knows a man of a constitution delicate enough, who hath taken of it to 30. grains, and
yet not found any troublesome accident upon it; on the contrary that the Patient hath
found himself so well after it, that he continued to take the same dose twice or thrice a
week.

He observes also, that whereas it hath been disputed, what might cause the difference
of Colour in the White and Black *Pepper*, some believing, that *Pepper* gathered before it
was ripe, looked white, but became black in ripening; others pretending, that as the same
Vine-stocks, which produce white grapes, do not bear black ones, so they are different
plants; that bear *Pepper* of different colour; our Author affirms, that this diversity of Colours
proceeds thence; that the black *Pepper* is covered by its skin, which the white is bared of &c.

E R R A T A in Numb. 51.

P^{Ag.} 1028. l. 7, r, by a bank of. *ibid.* l. 9. r. preserve this bank. p 1039. l
33. r. bottles well sealed up.

Printed by T. N. for John Martyn Printer to the Royal Society, and are to be
sold at the Bell a little without Temple-Bar, 1669.